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Atty Docket No:

305T-932610US

Client Ref:

SF2001-014-2

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#19-03
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ROBERT H. EDWARDS, ELIZABETH E. BELLOCCHIO, ROBERT T. FREMEAU, JR., and RICHARD J. REIMER
Application No.: 09/915,181

Examiner: Ram R. Shukla

Art Unit: 1632

Filed: 07/24/2001

For: **NOVEL GLUTAMATE TRANSPORTERS**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 10, 2002, containing a Restriction Requirement. The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- 1) A petition to extend the period of response for three months.

REMARKS

In the December 10, 2003 Office Action, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 to one of 32 groups as set forth in the Office action.

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group VI, claims 1, 11, and 16, drawn to a method of screening for an agent that modulates uptake of glutamate into a cell comprising a nucleic acid encoding VGLUT3 by detecting the expression of VGLUT3 at the protein level.